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I, Leslie Lindsay Smith, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on September 2, 2003.

By:

LL Smith

Leslie Lindsay Smith

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Rex Bitner <i>et al.</i>	Docket No.	016026/9264
Serial No.	09/711,782	Group Art Unit	1637
Confirmation No.	7178	Examiner:	J. Riley
Filed:	November 13, 2000		
For:	LYSATE CLEARANCE AND NUCLEIC ACID ISOLATION USING SILANIZED SILICA MATRICES		

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, and in response to the non-final Office Action mailed April 1, 2003, Applicant requests entry of the amendment, reconsideration on the merits, and allowance of the claims. This response is accompanied by a request for a two-month extension of time, extending the period for reply from July 1, 2003 to September 1, 2003. Because September 1, 2003 is a Federal holiday, this response, which is being submitted on September 2, 2003, is being filed within two months of the July 1, 2003 expiration of the shortened statutory period for reply.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.